

MEMPHIS APPEAL

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, SEPT. 27, 1871.

ALL POLITICAL DISSENTS

SHOULD BE REMOVED.

The article in the Appeal on Monday

morning proposing to make the

office of President of the United States

a prize to which the negroes can

aspire as well as the negro, has attracted

considerable attention. The

subject is momentous in itself, and

involves so many considerations that

deserves a thorough discussion.

Constitutions are tested by great

events, and those which have

transpired during the last few years,

making Fred. Douglass eligible to the

Presidency, have produced a clamor in

favor of giving an equal privilege to

Carl Schurz and Eugene Cassery.

Even as late as twenty years ago, this

country was satisfied with its Constitution,

and the most thoughtful citizens,

joining heartily in the common say-

ing of the people, that it was the

most perfect form of political

wisdom, the greatest triumph ever

achieved by peaceful statesmanship.

But under the terrible strains of the

last twenty years, every joint has

been strained, and there is a

growing disposition to consider

more profoundly the elementary prin-

ciples of constitutional law. No peo-

ple will reverence their law the less

for understanding it the more. Let it

be a favorite theme for study; let

every defect in our present system be

searched out, and let the actual want

of the nation form themselves in its

mind into distinct resolves, until an

educated public opinion shall be ready

to find its mature expression in such

amendments as its wisest representa-

tives can devise. When the people as

a whole demand any definite constitu-

tional change with the same energy

and ability, with which they demanded

union in 1788, and freedom in 1863, and

with which they demand peace, with

freedom to-day, then they will be

ready to make that other amendment

which the exigency of the times de-

mands. The union amendments, made

for party purposes, have pro-

duced the absolute necessity for still

another amendment, for there is

something revolting to every white

man in the idea that the office of the

President of the United States is made

accessible to an ignorant black man,

while his doors are too holy to be

polluted by the tread of the educated

patriotic foreigner. The authors of

the Alien and Sedition laws were

convinced that the consummation

of wrath of an indignant people, know-

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of wrath of an indignant people, know-

they tally to a dot; and not only

that, but his comments are in line and

precept with them. But, admitting

this to be so, says "Mr. Bayne, your

publication of the fact that there is a

discrepancy of a cent in favor of New

Orleans, as compared with Memphis,

will drive cotton away from our city."

To this we answer that such was not

the case before the war. Then, New

Orleans and not New York, was the

principal cotton market of the

United States, and was always

advanced in price, beside that her clas-

sification was always higher than ours.

Memphis then grew as fast as a cotton

plant, as she does now. But beside

this we can say with truth, that we

know neither peace nor rest from mer-

chants of all grades and classes until

we published the first telegraphic mar-

ket report that costs a very large sum,

and that makes the APPEAL a well-

come visitor in all the cottoning houses

of the city; and that it was particu-

larly enjoyed upon us to publish

every day the report from New Or-

leans, that being considered the mar-

ket, after New York, that we were

most in sympathy with. But suppose

we obey the request of Mr. Bayne, and

leave out the New Orleans market,

what then? Why, Mr. Seller comes

grumbling, and says "You do wrong,

a gross wrong. It is your duty to re-

port the market as you find it, and

to institute such comparisons as

the market affords. Do you suppose

that in these days of the telegraph

you can hide a fact like that of the

price of cotton in New Orleans or

New York? No, sir, you cannot.

Why then are many country dealers

along our lines of railroad so well and

as thoroughly posted every day as we

are in Memphis. It would be a su-

preme folly to try and throw dust

in their eyes by withholding news they

are in possession of twelve hours be-

fore the publication of the APPEAL.

It costs about one cent per pound to

ship cotton to New Orleans, and

about two cents to ship and sell

in New York. If New Orleans pays

as much for cotton as New York, and

as much on the pound can be saved,

why not ship to New Orleans, and let

that market, as before the war, govern

the market? You are right Mr. Seller.

We would not be true to our

trust, if we gave quotations on our side

and covered up those on the other.

We give facts and figures and they

must speak for themselves. We are

devoted to Memphis. We are not

able to do anything for New Orleans,

and doing all in our power to advance

her interests, but it cannot, and must

not be expected of us to ignore com-

peting markets whenever they seem

to have an advantage over us and

publish them only when we have an

advantage over them. Were it not for

this, a country dealer in New Orleans

would be in a very awkward position

when asked to "rise and explain," by

the producers, who it must always be

remembered, have also claims upon

us as the parties most concerned.

GRANT AND JOHNSON.

The question whether President

Johnson or Grant's administration

has proven the most costly to the

country is just now a subject of un-

merited and unjust comment by the

Radical press. In Wisconsin, where

the canvass for State officers was

warmer every day, the subject of

the relative merits of the two ad-

ministrations was a subject of un-

imaginable distortion and un-

fairness. The Milwaukee News re-

sponding on behalf of the Democracy

are held responsible for Johnson's

shortcomings, thus pays a de-

served tribute to the administration

of Grant, who stands out in bold

contrast with Grant. The News says:

"The annual expenditures during

Johnson's term were enormous, and

the Republicans claim great credit for

Grant and for their party that the ex-

penditures were not so great as those

were under Johnson; and so

Johnson is charged with extravagance,

though he never expended a cent

but such as Congress appropriated

and directed by law to be expended.

He is reproached by the Republicans

for the inefficiency with which the

revenue was collected under his ad-

ministration, when the fact is that

the Secretary of the Treasury, all con-

trol over the revenue officials, and all

power to remove the faithless and

disloyal. They made Congress sup-

pport and irresponsible in all re-

venue matters, and by the tenure of

office set they made it impossible for

the President to bring an official ac-

count. And there is no one to plead

this in his behalf. A far greater

crime was committed by Johnson, and

under Johnson there has been paid

under Grant, and he reduced the

amount of annual interest from \$100,

000,000 to \$120,000,000, but there is

no body to boast of this in his behalf.

He received no presents from those

who wanted favor and patronage, and

his successor's acceptance of presents has

become a scandal and a national dis-

grace, but the world is not told so.

He was undoubtedly a patriot and a

man of pure motives, but it is not en-

tered as a claim for him upon the

kind remembrance of his country-

men.

A WORD FOR THE PEOPLE.

The Jackson Whig and Tribune does

not leave its readers in doubt as to

where it stands on the question of

slavery. In its last issue it says truly

that "the people of Tennessee do not

wish or intend to repudiate her bond-

ed debt. But if the creditors of the State,

who know the circumstances under

which much of this debt was created,

shall press their bonds, now due or

past due, and insist upon their strict

fulfillment as 'nominatees in the bond,'

we shall not pretend to answer for

the conduct of a people who were

first plunged in debt by an un-

scrupulous fiction, and are now sought

to be plundered of their hard earn-

ing by bond-holders who bought

the State paper for a mere trifle.

The Legislature, which is to meet on

the 30th proximo, going up to Nashville,

as they do, 'fresh from the people,'

will, no doubt, fully understand and

appreciate the situation, and will

advocate the relief they owe to the

suffering and patient people."

EUROPE.

As it has been an old and honored

Citizen of Tennessee.

We are permitted to copy the fol-

lowing extract from a very interest-

ing letter by General Nath. Adams,

who for some months has been mak-

ing the tour of Europe. It is a com-

prehensive and interesting summary

of his trip up to the date of writing:

HARRISBURG, GEORGETOWN, Sept. 26, 1871.

We and quite a pleasant voyage

across the Atlantic, and spent about

a week in Ireland, visiting the lakes of

Killarney and other places of inter-

est, and from Dublin went